

Congratulations to the Graduating Class of 2024!!



Graduation
Saturday, May 11th
3:00 pm



*From the
Superintendent's Desk*

“Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.” - John F. Kennedy

The above quote has always stuck with me. As an educator, I have worked to embrace change as it comes. Throughout my career, I have seen changes in technology, teaching styles and different generations of students. Each has presented me with its own unique challenges and opportunities for me to grow. Change can be difficult, but change can also bring opportunities.

On April 8, both boards of education for Friend and Exeter-Milligan voted 6-0 in favor of petitioning the Nebraska Department of Education to begin the process of consolidation. Our new consolidated school district will begin July 1, 2025. In the case of both boards, they chose to look at the opportunities that lie ahead with creating a new district. A chance to expand curricular offerings. A chance to create partnerships with local businesses and organizations. A chance to become more than we currently are and BETTER TOGETHER.

For the school boards and administration, our focus now moves to looking at both districts and what the overall vision of the district should be for the 2025-26 school year. This will take time and be a slow and all-consuming process for leadership. Some decisions will be easy, while others will take thought, reflection and much planning.

While there is still much work to be done, this is a moment that may create different feelings as we move forward. Feelings could fluctuate as we think about the past and the future. During the 2024-25 school year, we will take time to focus on both.

In the first semester, our goal at FPS is to celebrate and remember the past. During this time, we will focus on FPS, its history and celebrate being the Friend Bulldogs. The past deserves our attention and respect as we would not be here without the faculty, administration and students who came before us. Honoring the past is our first step to focusing on the future.

In the second semester, we will switch our focus to the future. We will look ahead to our full transition to the EMF Bobcats and plans for the future. Within this future, we will take a look at the traditions that were enjoyed by each district. Some traditions will continue under the new district. Other traditions will not be continued. This is a part of growth and change.

My goal and hope is that many years from now, we will look back at this time with a sense of nostalgia and goodwill as three separate towns came together to create more for our students. That has been the focus throughout this entire process—through all of the meetings, discussions, collaborative efforts and more. What is best for our students? In the end, it is my wish that this continues to push us long past this point of history as a consolidated district.

There is much to do! And I, for one, can't wait to see what the future holds.



Go For The Gold Every Day!!



Happy Spring!!!! We have a lot of fun and exciting things happening at Friend Public School to end our school and celebrate our time together! Please see the schedule below and please make sure you have the correct number/email address hooked into our school's "Blackboard" account where you will get notifications as well. You can also make sure to have the Friend Public School App on your phone for up-to-date information. Thank you to everybody for a wonderful school year!!!

Liz Stutzman- Principal

Friend Public School

Stutzman's Side Notes

"Go For The Gold Every Day"

May 5- Baccalaureate Service 6:30 (Old Gym)

May 6-10- Elementary Bike to School Day (on a chosen day this week, based off the weather)

May 7- 7th-12th Grade Academic Honors night 6:00 (new gym)

May 11- Class of 2023 Graduation 3:00 pm (new gym)

May 13- Class of 2036 Kindergarten Graduation 2:15 (old gym)

May 14- Jump Up Day for 4-year old Pre School- 6th Grade and field day

May 16- Last day of Preschool

May 17- Last day of school!! 12:30 release

May 25- FHS Alumni Banquet (old gym)

Senior Scholarships

- Individual scholarship recipients will be announced at Honors Night on May 7
Congratulations to our seniors whose hard work paid off!
 - Please note that individual scholarship recipients will not be announced during the graduation ceremony (although a list will be available in the graduation program).
- A huge thank you goes out to our local and area benefactors for the many opportunities being given to our seniors! Our students are very blessed to have such generous community members, businesses and organizations.

Looking at Next Year

- Upcoming 7-12 grade students will receive their class schedules for the 2024-2025 school year in early August, along with their back to school information.
- After receiving their schedules, students who wish to drop and/or add classes are welcome to stop by Ms. Hottovy's office between 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. from August 5-8.

Community Service

- Businesses, organizations, churches, etc. in the Friend school district are reminded to contact Ms. Amy Hottovy or Mrs. Liz Stutzman with any community service opportunities that might be available for our high school students over the summer. Thank you to all who have already begun partnering with the school!
- Students who will be in grades 9-12 for the 2024-2025 school year are encouraged to earn community service hours this summer. Check out the Google Doc for multiple opportunities.

MAY Breakfast & Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		1	2	3
		Breakfast Pizza Bacon, Egg, Cheese Hamburger/Bun Baked Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	Waffles Chicken Nugget Sweet Potato Fries Bread/Butter Fruit & Veggie Bar	Egg Cheese Omelet Subs Chips Cookie Fruit & Veggie Bar
6	7	8	9	10
Donut Fiestada Refried Beans Churro Fruit & Veggie Bar	Breakfast Bites Walking Taco Toppings Shredded Cheese Bread/Butter Fruit & Veggie Bar 	Pancakes Mini Corn Dogs Potato Smiles Pudding Fruit & Veggie Bar	Biscuits & Gravy Hot Dog/Bun Chili Shredded Cheese Fruit & Veggie Bar 	Apple Breakfast Bites Pepperoni Pizza Corn Fruit & Veggie Bar
13	14	15	16	17
Chocolate Chocolate Chip Muffin Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes Gravy Bread/Butter Fruit & Veggie Bar	Breakfast Pizza Pepperoni Calzone Marinara Sauce Cooked Carrots Fruit & Veggie Bar	French Toast Meaty Nachos Toppings Bread/Butter Fruit & Veggie Bar 	Pancake Bites Italian Dunkers (Cheese Breadstick) Marinara Sauce Green Beans Fruit & Veggie Bar	Donuts Breaded Chicken Patty/Bun Jell-O Fruit & Veggie Bar
20	21	22	23	24
				SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE DUE TO AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN PRODUCTS

Friend Public School is an equal opportunity provider

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!



MAY



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>For the most current and up to date information, please go to: http://www.pioneerconference.org and click on Friend or check the calendar on the school website: friendbulldogs.org</p>			<p>HS Quiz Bowl @ Seward</p>	<p>TR @ Cross County 10:00 TR @ McCool (JV) 10:00 BG @ York Classic 9:00</p>	<p>2:00 out</p>	<p>JH TR Pioneer Invite @ Tri County 9:00</p>
<p>Cinco De Mayo Baccalaureate Service 6:30</p>	<p>BG Dual @ Fillmore Central 4:00</p>	<p>Academic Honors Night (7-12) 6:00 <i>FCA Lunch Meeting</i> 5th Grade Field Trip</p>	<p>BG @ Thayer Central Invite 9:30</p>	<p>District Track @ Sandy Creek TBA</p>	<p>2:00 out FFA Petting Zoo 12-2</p>	<p>Graduation 3:00</p>
<p>Mother's Day</p>	<p>Kindergarten Graduation 2:15 EMF FFA Officer Meeting (Friend) 6:00 BOE-Media Center 7:30</p>	<p>Golf Districts @ Quail Run Columbus Pre-4-6th Jump Up Day Elementary Field Day</p>		<p>Preschool Last Day of School</p>	<p>12:30 out Last Day of School State Track-Omaha</p>	<p>State Track-Omaha</p>
		<p>State Boys Golf</p>	<p>State Boys Golf</p>			
	<p>Memorial Day</p>					

BOBCAT BASKETBALL CAMP



This summer Sara Pella, Allison & Preston Meints will be holding a basketball mini-camp for all girls interested in learning and developing basketball skills. The camp will run for **two** days for all girls in grades 1 through 8. The schedule for the camp is as follows: (The grades pertain to the grade your child will enter fall 2024).

Grades 1-4 9:00am-11:30am
Grades 5-8 12:30pm-3:00pm

Camp Dates - May 28th & May 29th

The camp will be held in Friend. During the youth camp, we will have EMF high school players helping. The camp will emphasize skill development of the basic fundamentals, teamwork, and enthusiasm for the game of basketball. The camp offers players the opportunity to improve their individual and team skills. There will be a chance to win prizes during camp. Each student will receive a bobcat jersey on the first day of camp so they can wear it the remainder of camp.

Cost of this camp will be \$35.

Permit to Attend

I hereby give my daughter _____ who will enter grade _____ next fall permission to attend the Bobcat Basketball Camp. It is understood that the child is under school supervision but neither the school district nor those in charge will be held responsible in case of an accident.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Please return the form and check to Friend or Exeter-Milligan Public School by May 7th. Cash or make checks payable to EMF Girls Basketball.

Please indicate jersey size: Youth S M L XL
Adult S M L XL

If you have any questions contact Sara at 641-856-7651 or sara.pella@emwolves.net.

E.M.F BOYS BOBCAT BASKETBALL CAMP

MON. MAY 20 - WED. MAY 22
AT FRIEND HIGH SCHOOL

GRADE K-3 9AM-11AM / GRADE 4-7 12PM-3PM
(GRADE COMPLETED '23-'24)

****Please note change in days and times for grade levels this year****

Boys who have completed kindergarten- 7th grade are welcome to join in on the fun! The camp will focus on learning fundamental basketball skills and teamwork. The kids will play games and take part in competitions on the final day of camp. The boys high school basketball coaches and athletes will assist the younger players throughout the week.

**Please return this portion and payment to
the office of FPS or EM by: May 3rd, 2024**

Payable to: FPS Cost: \$40 per player

Name: _____ Grade completed: _____
Name: _____ Grade completed: _____
Name: _____ Grade completed: _____
Name: _____ Grade completed: _____

Emergency Contact name: _____ & # _____

Email address: _____

Each camper will receive a basketball!

Questions contact: Brian Arp - brian.arp@friendschool.org

I hereby release Friend/Exeter-Millgian Public School District and all volunteers of camp from all claims resulting from injuries, which may be sustained by the player while attending the camp. I have no knowledge of any physical impairment that would affect my child's participation in the camp as outlined. By signing below, I certify that I have read and agree to the above statement.

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____



BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATION CLINIC FOR



**FRIEND PUBLIC SCHOOL
AT PHS
830 E. 1ST STREET, CRETE**



**DATES
JULY 23, 25, 30, 2024
12:30 PM TO 5:30 PM**



**GRADES PRE-K THROUGH 12
BY APPOINTMENT**



**CALL 402-826-3880
TO SCHEDULE.**

**ALL STUDENTS MUST COME TO
THE CLINIC WITH A PARENT OR GUARDIAN.**



LAST BULLDOG BUDDIES of the 23-24 SCHOOL YEAR!

~The students made tie blankets to take to Children's Hospital in Omaha~



Saline County Government Day 2024

On Wednesday, March 20th the Senior American Government class attended Saline County Government Day in Wilber. This event was sponsored by the American Legion and Legion Auxiliary units from the county. The day started with introductions by Scott Davis, Saline County Veterans Service Officer, and a welcome from 1st District Judge David Barga. Students were assigned an office in the Saline County Government to start the day. The students spent two hours completing a scavenger hunt that took them to several of the county offices to find answers to questions concerning the various county offices. Lunch was served at the American Legion Hall in Wilber. After lunch, students had an opportunity to hear a National Guard presentation, play the Saline County Jeopardy Quiz game and visit the Saline County Jail.

Those seniors attending included:

Aaliyah Cook, Laura Casper, Jordon Lawver, Jake Leif, Preston Knollenberg and Halona Wootton.

Paul Martin

American Government Instructor



Spring EMF FFA Update

Our FFA chapter has had an extremely busy schedule this spring. While January brought a lot of snow and cold weather, our chapter officer team traveled to UNMC to deliver the gift cards from our gift card drive for children awaiting organ donation. We delivered \$1,620 in gift cards to the med center, and we also got to meet with several children who had undergone organ transplants.

In February, Spencer Eberspacher and Jacob Weber both interviewed for their State FFA Degrees and passed their interviews. They received their awards on stage at the State FFA Convention. Additionally, Spencer interviewed for a STAR award in Placement, which is based on a student's SAE project. While he didn't make it to the State interview round, we are proud of him for applying. Abbie Milton, Will Vyhnalek and Spencer Eberspacher all received gold district finalists on their SAE proficiency award applications. Zach Spohn received a silver rating at the district level, and Mason Vossler received a gold at the district level.

Also in February, chapter members participated in multiple activities during National FFA Week, including the Drive Your Tractor to School day as well as our annual FFA Pep Rally. To round out February, FFA members competed in District Career Development Events hosted at Centennial High School with the following results:

- Floral Team- 2nd place
- Ag Sales Team- District Champions
- Agriscience Team- District Champions
- Natural Resources Team- 8th place
- Agronomy Team- 8th place
- Vet Science Team- 12th place
- Ag Mech and Tech- 8th place
- Welding Team- 15th place
- Livestock Management- 20th place

The Floral, Ag Sales, Agriscience and a Jr. Livestock Evaluation Team from earlier in the fall qualified and competed at the State FFA Convention. We also had an Ag Issues team that qualified for state that had to do a minimum number of forums to participate.

At the beginning of April, members traveled to Lincoln to compete and participate in the State Career Development Events and State FFA Convention. Members who attended got to compete in their CDE, experience an escape room, bowling and laser tag, convention sessions and a tour of Settje Ag in Raymond, Nebraska. Our members who competed did very well in their respective events. The results from convention are as follows:

- Floral Team- Cheyenne Krupicka, Abbie Milton, Keila Ricenbaw and Ashley Braun- placed 30th out of 58 teams.
- Ag Issues Team- Hunter Svehla, Babe Weber, Zachary Vossler, Caleb Black- placed 5th out of 12 teams.
- Ag Sales Team- Ella Archer, Mikey Bartu, Chase Paulsen, Will Vyhnalek- placed 3rd out of 36 teams and all individuals were in the top 20.
- Agriscience Team- Cheyenne Krupicka, Truman Milton, Malorie Lawver, Abigail Klooz- placed 16th out of 140 teams
- Jr. Livestock Evaluation- Keltyn Kirchhoff, Cohen Harre, Malorie Lawver and Hunter Svehla- placed 31st out of 58 teams.
- Miley Ricenbaw, Ty Svhela, Kate Pribyl and Brynlee Johnson- participated in People in Ag Presentation for Middle School students.

Rounding out this school year, the chapter will be hosting our annual End of the Year Awards Banquet in Exeter on April 19th, plant sales on April 24th-26th and a Petting Zoo for our Elementary on May 10th. This summer we are looking forward to our members participating in their SAE Visits by Mrs. Kohtz and Mrs. Segner plus watching members exhibit their projects at the Fillmore and Saline County Fairs.



SUMMER IS HERE

Word Search

DIRECTIONS: Find and circle the vocabulary words colors in the grid. Look for them vertically and horizontally.



BEACH

SUMMER

CAMP

SUN

FUN

SWIM

HOT

WATER



Attention ALL



Friend High School Alumni

The class of 2004 will be hosting the 2024 FHS Alumni Reunion!

Friday, May 24th: Class celebrations in the evening at specified locations based off of each class.

Saturday, May 25th:

***10:00am-2:00pm: Fun stops around town! Pick up your punch card at “The Binzebo” and enjoy your pit stops around town with a great time at each stop from there!**

***2:00-4:00: Gathering on the Country Club Patio**

*** 5:00 pm- Doors Open for The FHS Alumni Banquet at the San Carlo Room**

*** 6:00 pm- Supper will be served followed by entertainment!**

***Ticket Information:* Beginning April 1st tickets can be purchased at Johnsons Pharmacy, Citizens State Bank, or Friend Public School OR you can Venmo Liz Stutzman at @LizStutzman**

Tickets will be \$30 each and if purchased through Venmo, we will have your tickets at the banquet for you, unless you would like your ticket mailed to you in advance.



Sunday, May 26th:

9:00-10:00 am: School Tours, please enter through the main entrance by the flagpole.

Friend Pool will open this weekend as well!

Monday, May 27th: Memorial Service 11:00 AM at Andrew Cemetery



Chick Fil A is coming to Friend!!!!

May 9th from 5:00-7:00 PM

**The Chick-Fil-A food truck will be parked by the
Binzebo downtown.**

**Limited Menu, Only debit/credit cards will be
accepted!**

BABYSITTING



CLINIC

FOR YOUTH AGES 11 AND OLDER

DETAILS

- * **Tuesday, May 21, 2024**
- * **American Legion Bldg., Wilber NE
310 West American Legion Memorial Drive, at Ball Park**
- * **9 am to 3 pm**
- * **Cost is \$20 per participant - cash or checks should be mailed to: UNL Extension in Saline County, PO 978, Wilber, NE or in person at 306 W 3rd St., Wilber. Checks are payable to University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Please send payment within 5 days of registration.**
- * **Limited to 25 participants**
- * **Participants must attend the entire training.**
- * **Please bring a sack lunch.**

**Pre-resigation is required at:
<https://go.unl.edu/24salinebabysittingclinic>
by May 3, 2024.**

Nebraska Extension is a Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln cooperating with Counties and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

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BULLDOGS OF THE MONTH



Staff

Nicole White

Female Student

Alexis Paulsen

Male Student

Theodore Park

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